

the Perunchani Scheme, another for the National Highway scheme and yet another for the ordinary engineering works. So it is very likely that 3 to 4 officers will have to be appointed and the Government are considering the filling up of these places as early as possible.

STATEMENT BY PRESIDENT.

PRESIDENT: I have received notice of a motion for adjourning the business of the House which reads:—

“I beg to move that the business of the House be adjourned for the purpose of discussing a definite matter of urgent public importance, namely, the serious situation brought about by the recent Government order for commandeering of valloms being indiscriminately carried out causing much inconvenience to the wholesale merchants to supply ration articles in time and the consequent hardships and sufferings the public are put to.”

I trust that the honourable member will not press this matter for the reason that I shall endeavour to show presently. The Government of India have told us already that there is a tremendous amount of delay in unloading the grain shipments that have arrived in Cochin and in clearing them away from the godowns there. This Government have tried to commandeer godowns with the kind assistance and co-operation of the Cochin Government. This Government have rented many godowns in Cochin and some of them are not of the best order. The honourable members would have learnt that one godown collapsed about 5 or 9 days ago causing some casualties. It is not my idea to criticise the godowns that are available to us. But I am only stating the position. In any case we have not enough godowns and the result is that the Government of India have told us that the ships will sail away with the full load unless they are cleared. The result is that within the next 2 or 3 weeks when steamers will be coming in quick succession we have to move all the food grains down to Travancore. Therefore whatever may be the inconvenience to anybody, wholesale merchants or the public, we shall not lose any opportunity for commandeering valloms and, as I said, unless we clear the grains through the valloms speedily, things will be different. Therefore without commandeering nothing is possible. The risk will be that we shall be losing all the grain ships which will sail away as such a course has been definitely ordered by the Government of India. It is expected that those ships will stay on from 3 to 4 days at Cochin and if we are able to effect transport within that period, there is no difficulty for us to secure the grains sent to us. That is the present position.

MR. R. MADHAVAN NAIR: പ്രസിഡൻ്റ് അവർക്കു നൽകിയ വിശദീകരണത്തെ ചരിഗണിച്ച് ഞാൻ ഈ മോഷൻ പ്രസ് ചെയ്യുന്നില്ല.

[Mr. R. Madhavan Nair.]

എന്നാൽ അങ്ങയുടെ ദൃഷ്ടിയിൽ ഇതുസംബന്ധിച്ച് ഇവിടെ നടക്കുന്ന ചില കഴുപ്പുകളെ കൊണ്ടുവരാതിരിക്കുവാനും നിവൃത്തിയില്ല.

PRESIDENT: The honourable members know that there is no difficulty in that. I am always accessible for any honourable member. The honourable member himself has come to me on various occasions and I have endeavoured to satisfy him on all those occasions. There is absolutely no difficulty in such things and the members are perfectly right in pointing out the particular difficulties arising in a matter. I shall be ready to solve it. So the honourable member need not make this statement on the floor of the House but can meet me in the course of the day or tomorrow.

MR. K. A. MATHEW: We have received information from Kottayam, Thiruvalla and Changanacherry that even the valloms belonging to merchants who are transporting the grains are commandeered. I fail to see the reason for such a step.

PRESIDENT: If there is any abuse of power vested with the local officers, that may be brought to my notice. Now that Government have taken the responsibility for having passed the order for commandeering, at whatever cost, as many valloms as possible should be commandeered so that all the rice may be brought to our place. I would also like the honourable members to realise the statement that was made in the House of Commons. It has been stated that the food position is serious throughout the world. These things go by seesaw and the crisis in Europe and the Far East *en masse* will come in the next two and a half months and they even say that a famine may be expected. This was the statement presented to the House of Commons last evening. Now that we have got some grains, the ships lying at Cochin should be unloaded at any cost before we get enveloped in any untoward happenings. In passing I may mention that I received a telegram the day before yesterday mid night from Madras stating that the Madras Government would like to get five thousands tons of rice and that the same may be shifted to Malabar area. That is how things stand. I replied to them saying that our needs are very great and that as we have barely 2 1/2 weeks' supply, we are not in a position to send that shipment. Therefore if we do not take all the rice immediately, there is the likelihood of that being sent over to Malabar. That is the present position.

I have received notice of another adjournment motion which reads:

"I move for an adjournment of the business of the House to discuss a matter of urgent public importance namely the situation created in the country by serious anxiety and alarm felt by the Tamilian citizens of the Taluks of Thovala, Agasteeswaram, Kalkulam, Shencotta and Devicolam by the recent announcement on the questions of forming a linguistic province of All-Kerala including Travancore."

The following statement has also been added :

" In the statement made by the Dewan President yesterday in this House the question of the creation of an All-Kerala linguistic province including Travancore was discussed. It was made clear therein that the formation of an All-Kerala Province is not practicable or feasible or acceptable to this Government on the grounds of constitutional difficulties and sovereign rights. But the citizens of the Tamil taluks are definitely opposed to the idea of merging themselves in a Malayalam area and claim the right of self-determination.

The anxiety and alarm caused by the statement has created a very serious situation in these taluks I claim a debate."

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The honourable members will see that this is a matter as to which no adjournment motion can be allowed because, as I ruled yesterday the relations between this Government and other the Governments cannot be discussed on the floor of the House although an announcement can be made and had to be made in the circumstances that I indicated. One of the main grounds—rather one of the many grounds, which are militating against the entertainment of the idea of a Kerala province comprising Travancore is this very matter. Obviously in Travancore one third of the population speaks Tamil and equally obviously those people are more akin linguistically to Tamil Nad than to Kerala. Therefore, from Trivandrum to Cape Comorin the people of Travancore will if the underlying idea of the Cochin Scheme is adopted become part of the Tamil Nad Province and obey the orders of the Governor of the Province of Tamil Nad. Then there is the area from Trivandrum to Parur and that portion will come under the Kerala Province envisaged in Cochin. Because one third of the population of the State is Tamil speaking and exclusively Tamil, for their benefit, various orders have been passed by Government, for Gazette notifications being printed in Tamil and certain other State documents too are ordered to be published in Tamil. In the circumstances of Travancore which is a composite country where both Tamil and Malayalam are spoken in distinct areas and because of the further fact that there are distinct Tamil groups existing in Alleppey, Devicolum and a few other places, this Government deals with Tamil and Malayali people. The Kerala Province idea is therefore unthinkable and would involve a partition of Travancore. Hence this Government made up their minds not recently but many years' ago and have reiterated their view that they will not be a party to any Kerala Province or Travancore joining any Kerala Province. Clearly Travancore cannot join the Kerala without also joining the Tamil Province. Unless there is a partition of Travancore for the purpose of putting one half or one third into the Tamil Nad and the rest in the Kerala Province, the scheme cannot be got through. That is why we emphatically negatived the proposition. I may add for the information of

[President.]

the honourable members that the Government of India will be apprised that on no circumstances will any discussion be ever entertained or contemplated with regard to either a Tamil Province, or Kerala province involving the absorption of Travancore therein.

RAJ SAHIB A. K. BHASKAR: May I know who are the authors of these adjournment motions?

PRESIDENT: Messrs. V. S. Krishna Pillai and M. L. Janardhana Pillai. I find the motions out of order and I rule accordingly.

MR. P. W. VARGHESE: Is it not a matter for Travancoreans to decide whether we should link ourselves with a united Kerala Province?

PRESIDENT: Who is to decide it?

MR. P. W. VARGHESE: Travancoreans.

PRESIDENT: Today His Highness represents Travancore and the decision rests with His Highness who can bind Travancore. He has bound Travancore to a definite decision that Travancore will never join a Kerala Province or Tamil Province. That is final.

MR. K. A. MATHEW: May I know, is it not to be ultimately decided by the people of Travancore?

PRESIDENT: Under the constitution, His Highness is the sole and constituted authority in such a matter and the opinion expressed by him represents the decision of Travancore.

MR. T. K. NARAYANA PILLAI: So, do the people of Travancore not count at all?

PRESIDENT: Not for this purpose His Highness is the sole authority for this purpose.

ANNOUNCEMENT RE: THE RESULT OF THE ELECTION HELD ON 31-7-1946 TO THE VILLAGE UPLIFT ADVISORY COMMITTEE.

PRESIDENT: In the election held yesterday to the Village Uplift Advisory Committee, the following members who secured the largest number of votes are declared elected:—

Messrs. Chazhikkattu Joseph	...	24 votes.
K. K. Chellappan Pillai	...	24 votes and
P. K. Kunju	...	21 votes.

VOTING ON DEMANDS FOR GRANTS.

DEMAND XXXIX—ANCHAL DEPARTMENT—(contd.)

MR. P. K. KURIAKOSE: സർ, മറ്റു പല ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെന്റുകളിലേയും പോലെതന്നെ അഞ്ചൽ ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെന്റിലെയും വരവു വളർച്ചയ്ക്കുണ്ടിരിക്കുന്നു. അതിലേക്കു ഇപ്പോൾ